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CESR  
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**Re. Consultation on CESR's Advice on Possible Implementing Measures of the Directive 2004/39/EC on Markets in Financial Instruments**

Iceland Stock Exchange (ICEX) is a member of the NOREX alliance which includes as well Oslo Børs, Copenhagen Stock Exchange and OMX Exchanges (which forms a part of the OMX Group, which includes Stockholm Stock Exchange and, Helsinki Stock Exchange, as well as Baltic exchanges, i.e. Tallinn Stock Exchange, Riga Stock Exchange and partly Vilnius Stock Exchange). The NOREX exchanges offer trading on the same trading platform and have harmonized rules for trading in equities.

ICEX is also a member of FESE and fully endorses the views put forward by FESE on the CESR Advice on Possible Implementing Measures on MiFID. Furthermore, ICEX endorses the NOREX response to the consultation.

In particular, ICEX supports the view presented by NOREX and FESE that the degree of detail in the Level 1 directive as well as the draft CESR advice on Level 2 is far more extensive than seems to be necessary to obtain the goal of harmonization on the EU/EEA capital markets. The approach chosen seems not to support the Lamfalussy procedure for framework or core political principles on Level 1 and leave more detailed work for Level 2-4. In fact questions may be raised to what extent room exists for further measures on Level 3 for national regulators.

The level of details and the narrative approach chosen on individual matters could easily harm the objective of promoting efficiency and to foster innovation in order to make the European markets truly competitive in a global environment. Furthermore, more attention should be paid to the possible damaging effects of too detailed regulation on smaller markets within EU/EEA. ICEX believes that these markets are in a better position than larger markets to assist small and mid-cap companies in raising capital and smaller financial intermediaries in achieving future growth to the benefit of the public at large. ICEX would therefore ask CESR to opt for more principle based approach in the future on its Level 2 work on MiFID.

Regarding detailed questions in the CESR MiFID paper ICEX supports the view presented by other NOREX exchanges and all the main views put forward by FESE.

Respectfully yours,

Ragnar Jonasson,  
Head of Legal Affairs.